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Title: Need to remove irregularities in the implementation of MGNREGA Scheme.

***SHRI P. LINGAM (TENKASI):** Hon. Chairman Sir, thank you for this opportunity. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme is an important scheme which is aimed to ensure 100 man-days of work per year to rural agricultural labourers and to remove property. This scheme was started to develop agriculture activities. This scheme is being implemented by all the States. This scheme is being implemented as per the Minimum Wages Acts of the respective State Governments. An amount of Rs.148/- is provided in Tamil Nadu. In other States their own Minimum Wages Acts are being followed. Unfortunately, in some States, the minimum wages as prescribed in their Acts are not provided. On the contrary, the wages of labourers are fixed on the basis of work done, through measurement mechanism. Sometimes the wages paid are even lower than Rs.40/-. I do not understand the reason. It is injustice to fix the wages through measurement mechanism. Some Officers too are working in such a way that hampers the implementation of the programme. It is felt that particularly during social audit, the Officers concerned are intimidated. I want to know whether social audit was included deliberately in the scheme to minimize the wages. I insist that the minimum wages should be ensured to the labourers. The purchasing power of poor people was taken into account in the past. But at time of the implementation of this Scheme, it is not taken into account. I urge that wages to the labourers must be fixed on daily wage basis. Also, minimum wages, as prescribed in the scheme, should be provided to the labourers. The wages, that were denied are indeed due to the labourers and they should be given to them immediately. I urge upon the Union Government through this House that minimum wage, as prescribed in Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, should be provided to the labourers on daily wage basis.